http://www.paragraphorganizer.com/images/what_is.gif

A paragraph is a unit of text that develops one idea or topic in specific detail. It has three main parts: topic sentence, supporting details and a closing sentence. The topic sentence is the first sentence in a paragraph and it introduces the main idea of the paragraph. Supporting details come after the topic sentence, and they give more details to develop and support the main idea of the paragraph. The closing sentence is the last sentence in a paragraph. Its main purpose is to restate or reinforce the main idea of the paragraph.

**Topic Sentence (Statement)**  
**What is the topic sentence?**   
The topic sentence is the first sentence in a paragraph.

**What does it do?**   
It introduces the main idea of the paragraph.

**How do I write one?**   
Summarise the main idea of your paragraph. Indicate to the reader what your paragraph will be about.

**Supporting Details (Explanation & Example)**

**What are supporting sentences?**   
They come after the topic sentence, making up the body of a paragraph.

**What do they do?**   
They give details to develop and support the main idea of the paragraph.

**How do I write them?**   
You should give supporting facts, details, and examples.

**Closing Sentence**

**What is the closing sentence?**The closing sentence is the last sentence in a paragraph.

**What does it do?**   
It restates/reinforces the main idea of your paragraph.

**How do I write one?**   
Restate/reinforce the main idea of the paragraph using different words.

**Description Paragraph**  
In a description paragraph, you are writing about what a person, place, or thing is like. Sometimes, you may describe where a place is located.

**The following words can help you to write a good description paragraph:**

**Helper Words:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Properties | Measurement | Analogy | Location |
| [size](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/describe.htm#P1) | [length](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/describe.htm#M1) | [is like](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/describe.htm#A1) | [in](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/describe.htm#L1) |
| [colour](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/describe.htm#P2) | [width](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/describe.htm#M2) | [resembles](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/describe.htm#A2) | [above](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/describe.htm#L2) |
| [shape](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/describe.htm#P3) | [mass/weight](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/describe.htm#M3) |  | [below](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/describe.htm#L3) |
| [purpose](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/describe.htm#P4) | [speed](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/describe.htm#M4) |  | [beside](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/describe.htm#L4) |
|  |  |  | [near](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/describe.htm#L5) |
|  |  |  | [north/east/south/west](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/describe.htm#L6) |

**Describe your favourite project so far in Technology.**

My favourite project so far is my own 17th century clock. It is 1 ½ meters in length, ½ meter wide, and weighs about ½ kilogram. It is blue like the centre of the Pacific ocean with shades of purple triangular arches on the sides. These arches look very similar to some of the Baroque period designs commonly found in churches at the time. This is my best project to date because I feel that I was in charge of every aspect, from the planning right up to its presentation to my grandma as a birthday present.

**Explanation Paragraph**

In an explanation paragraph, you need to explain how or why something happens. Very often in many learning areas, you will be asked to explore causes and effects of certain events.

**The following words can help you to write a good explanation paragraph:**

**Helper Words:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Cause** | **Effect** |
| [because](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/explain.htm#C1) | [therefore](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/explain.htm#E1) |
| [since](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/explain.htm#C2) | [thus](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/explain.htm#E2) |
| [as a result of](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/explain.htm#C3) | [consequently](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/explain.htm#E3) |
| [is due to](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/explain.htm#C4) | [hence](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/explain.htm#E4) |
|  | [it follows that](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/explain.htm#E5) |
|  | [if . . . then](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/tips/paragrap/explain.htm#E6) |

**Explain the type(s) of modelling that you used in your project.**

The types of modelling that I used for my table were free hand sketches and a mock up. Free hand sketches enabled me to experiment with my ideas. My friends provided some useful suggestions and feedback, and it was fun and an easy way of playing around with my design. The mock up was created in cheap material so that I can learn from it before using expensive material. I think the types of modelling I used enabled me to experiment with different designs. I also learned about the best types of materials to use, and how to make good decisions to improve the quality of my product.

**Discussion paragraph**

In a discussion paragraph, you provide commentary on/about your topic. It involves presenting your interpretations and arguments for and against. It can/may involve arguing a point of view, providing supporting evidence to justify or defend decisions, or actions taken. Depending on your subject requirements, it can/may also involve the examination of information to draw conclusions, application of information to new situation, and critical reflection.

Question: Discuss why you chose a particular type or types of technological modeling in your project. Also include how you arrived at your final decisions and how those decisions considered possible risks.

***Part 1. Type(s) of modeling & reasons for choice***

**Introduction**

I chose (type(s) of modeling)… because of the following reasons: a; b; and c. (summarise reasons)

Firstly, (reason a) …

Secondly, (reason b) …

Thirdly / Finally, (reason c) …

*(Note: for each reason, apply same paragraph writing formula – eg SEX, or TS-SD-CS)*

***Part 2. How you arrived at your final decisions***

The following steps were taken to arrive at my final decisions: (a; b; c; etc)

Step a: Name of step

Step b: Name of step

Step c: Name of step

Possible structure to use for the steps above:

1. Name each step (make sure the heading captures what was involved)
2. What did you do? Who did you consult? etc…
3. What was the outcome?
4. Personal reflection?

***Part 3. How decisions considered possible risks.***

As risk is part of all creative endeavours, the following steps were taken to ensure that any possible risk was kept to the absolute minimum:

Step a: Name of step

Step b: Name of step

Step c: Name of step

Possible structure to use for the steps above:

1. Name each step (make sure the heading captures what was involved)
2. Possible risk etc…
3. What you did to minimise risk?
4. Evidence that supports your actions?

**Conclusion**

Now tie up your discussion in (2-4) sentences by linking your conclusion to the question.